

**INDIANA ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO  
THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS  
MEETING MINUTES**

December 9, 2016

The Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Committee) convened via conference call to discuss publication of a draft report regarding civil rights concerns relating to the “school to prison pipeline” in the State. Diane Clements-Boyd chaired the meeting and performed the initial roll call of committee members present. The meeting was open to the public and took place from 4:00 PM- 5:00 PM EST.

**Present:**

- Libby Cierzniak
- Diane Clements-Boyd (Chair)
- James Haigh
- Bill McGill
- Patti O'Callaghan
- Ernesto Palomo
- Carlton Waterhouse
- Ellen Wu
- Catherine Zuckert

**Absent:**

- Tammi Davis
- Robert Dion
- Chris Douglas
- Richard Garnett
- Leslie Hiner
- Tony Kirkland

**Commission Staff Present**

- Wojnaroski, Melissa (DFO)

**Members of the Public Present**

- Cheryl Pruitt, Gary Community School District
- Debi Ketron, Indiana Association of Home Educators

**Meeting Notes/ Decisions Made:**

The Committee reviewed the most recent, completed draft report of the Committee’s inquiry into the School to Prison Pipeline in Indiana (attached, dated 12.05.16). The Committee made the following edits to the draft report:

1. Page 14, paragraph 2, second sentence was edited to read: “In fact, there are deep-seated imbalances that manifest in racially disproportionate school discipline patterns caused at least in part by racial implicit biases.”
2. Page 34, footnote 188 was corrected to cite the written statement of “Indiana Association of Home Educators Action.”

3. Pages 49-50:

- a. Recommendation 1(i) was added to the report as follows: “The Department should establish a joint task force in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice to study disparities in educational outcomes and juvenile justice involvement on the basis of race, color, disability status, and other federally protected categories. This task force should be charged with recommending and implementing appropriate policies, practices, and training to reduce such disparities”
- b. Recommendation 2(d) was added to the report as follows: “The Department should establish a joint task force in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education to study disparities in educational outcomes and juvenile justice involvement on the basis of race, color, disability status, and other federally protected categories. This task force should be charged with recommending and implementing appropriate policies, practices, and training to reduce such disparities.”
- c. Recommendation 4(a) was added to the report as follows: “The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights should issue the following recommendation to the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana Department of Corrections: The Departments should collaborate to establish a joint task force to study disparities in educational outcomes and juvenile justice involvement on the basis of race, color, disability status, and other federally protected categories. This task force should be charged with recommending and implementing appropriate policies, practices, and training to reduce such disparities in the State of Indiana.”

4. Other minor editorial (eg, grammatical, typographical) errors were corrected as appropriate.

The Committee notes that all panelists and members of the public had the opportunity to review and comment on the draft report and to offer corrections/revisions prior to the present meeting. All panelist and public comments were incorporated into the 12.05.16 draft as appropriate.

The Committee also notes that at the time of this meeting, the required Legal Sufficiency Review from the Commission’s Office of General Counsel remains outstanding and will be required prior to publication.

Bill McGill moved to approve the report for publication as amended, accepting any legal clarifications or required revisions resulting from the forthcoming Legal Sufficiency Review.

Patty O’Callaghan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

**Public Comment:** Debi Ketron of the Indiana Association of Home Educators provided the correction to footnote 188 on page 34 of the report, cited above. No other public comment was received.

**Next Steps:** Current appointments to the Indiana Advisory Committee expire on Sunday December 11, 2016. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has already appointed members to serve in the next term, to begin on Monday December 12, 2016. Those appointed for the incoming term will serve until December 11, 2020.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:58pm EST

**Next Meeting(s):** TBD. USCCR Staff will poll Committee members appointed to the new term, to determine availability for a February 2017 meeting.